

## Office of Head Start Review: Complete success!



L to R: Rhonda Blackmon, Annie Kelly, George Quigley, Markie Crabtree-OHS Review Team Leader, Cynthia Wilson, Irene Rocha, Janice Wright and Donna Barnette

“Continue to work the magic you do with your Head Start program and in the community!” was the closing comment of Markie Crabtree, Team Leader of the nine-member Office of Head Start Review Team that monitored our program last week. “You have a model program with perfect scores in so many areas you should go out and share your techniques and procedures with other Head Start programs!” said Ms. Crabtree.

Conducted once every three years, the week-long comprehensive and rigorous review looked at all services provided by CCAP Head Start: Early Head Start, Health, Nutrition, Safe Environments, Family and Community Services, Disabilities, Education and Early Childhood Development, Transportation, Fiscal Management. The review team used a Monitoring Protocol, a tool to provide a uniform, objective review process across the country,

ensuring an in depth approach to monitoring all Head Start programs.

The review team was extremely impressed with how prepared CCAP Head Start employees were for the review. The 10 months of intense preparation paid off. Training, practice reviews, individual staff notebooks—all contributed to a sense of “We are ready!”, a spirit that the review team picked up.

“There have only been two agencies that have been this well prepared in my 12 years of reviewing more than 100 programs,” said Markie Crabtree. “This Head Start program is number one in review preparation!”

Other members of the review team noted that the children are happy, comfortable, and enthusiastic. Happy children telegraph the positive nature of our Head Start program.

The CCAP Board of Directors and the Head Start Policy Council received kudos. Parents on the Policy Council are truly excited and proud to participate and want to let others know about the wonderful things Head Start has done for them, their children and their family.

“I’m extremely proud of how well the Head Start family—employees, parents, children, community partners, governing board—did as part of the review,” said Irene Rocha Head Start Director. “The reviewers said we have set the bar high, and we’ll continue to do so!” “We worked towards a common dream, a common goal, with a successful outcome.”

While CCAP Head Start awaits the written report which will be released in three to four months, we have been encouraged to “Continue to work our magic!”



OHS Review Team cross-examines the CCAP Executive Board on Tuesday, April 8th

